UNITED NATIONS

UNFCCC Framework Convention on Climate Change

Distr.
GENERAL

FCCC/CP/2001/11
5 October 2001

Original: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Seventh session
Marrakesh, 29 October - 9 November 2001
Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda

# PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE LISTS IN ANNEXES I AND II TO THE CONVENTION

# PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE LISTS IN ANNEXES I AND II TO THE CONVENTION BY REMOVING THE NAME OF TURKEY: REVIEW OF INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE DECISIONS UNDER ARTICLE 4, PARAGRAPH 2 (F)

**Note by the secretariat**

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# I. INTRODUCTION

## A. Mandate

1. Article 4, paragraph 2 (f), of the Convention provides that "the Conference of the Parties shall review, not later than 31 December 1998, available information with a view to taking decisions regarding such amendments to the lists in Annexes I and II as may be appropriate, with the approval of the Party concerned."

2. At its third session, the Conference of the Parties (COP), considered an amendment proposed by Pakistan and Azerbaijan to delete the name of Turkey from the lists in Annexes I and II to the Convention (FCCC/SBI/1997/15). Turkey, which is not yet a Party to the Convention, also requested the Conference to delete its name from Annexes I and II to the Convention. The request by Turkey was accompanied by a submission contained in document FCCC/CP/1997/MISC.3.

3. At the first part of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, the Minister of the Environment of Turkey presented new proposals which provided the basis for fresh consultations by the Rapporteur of COP 5, on behalf of the President of the Conference. After his consultations, the Rapporteur reported after his consultations that delegations had asked for more time to consult their Governments. The Conference therefore decided to request the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) to consider the issue at its next session and make a recommendation to the COP at its seventh session for definitive action.

## B. Scope of the note

4. This note provides background information on the sequence of events relating to the amendment proposed by Pakistan and Azerbaijan and the request by Turkey for the deletion of its name from the lists of Parties included in Annexes I and II to the Convention since the amendment was first proposed at COP 3 in 1997.

## C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

5. The SBI is invited to consider the issue and make a recommendation to the COP at its seventh session for definitive action.

# II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

6. Extensive consultations have been conducted by past Presidents of the COP and other officers acting on their behalf on the requests to delete the name of Turkey from the lists in Annexes I and II to the Convention but without coming to any definitive conclusion.

7. At the third session of the Conference of the Parties, one of the Vice-Presidents was requested by the President to conduct informal consultations on the amendment proposed but it proved impossible to reach a consensus. The Conference therefore invited the SBI at its eighth session to consider the request by Turkey and to present a report to the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties for consideration and definitive action.

8. The SBI was unable to come to an agreed conclusion at its eighth session and referred the matter to COP 4 for further consideration. Consequently, the Conference of the Parties, after considering the National Report on Climate Change submitted by Turkey, adopted decision 15/C.P.4 whereby it decided to continue the review of this matter under Article 4.2(f) at COP 5.

9. At the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties, the President offered to conduct informal consultations on the request by Turkey together with the amendment proposed by Pakistan and Azerbaijan. In spite of extensive consultations conducted by the President he announced on the last day of the Conference that Parties had not been able to reach a consensus. In recognition of the efforts made by Turkey, although not a Party to the Convention, to advance towards the objective of the Convention, the COP decided to defer consideration of this matter and requested the Executive Secretary to place the item on the provisional agenda of COP 6 (FCCC/CP/1999/6, paras. 59-63).

10. At the first part of the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties, the Minister of the Environment of Turkey, in his statement to the Conference, presented a new proposal, under which (i) the name of Turkey would be deleted from Annex II to the Convention; and (ii) the name of Turkey would remain in Annex I, but with an accompanying footnote indicating that Turkey should enjoy favourable conditions within the "common but differentiated responsibilities", taking into consideration that country's difficulties which stem from the fact that it is at an early stage of industrialization. That special status should be indicated in the same manner as had been done with the "countries that are undergoing the process of transition to a market economy" in Annex I to the Convention.

11. The Rapporteur of COP 5, who was designated by the President of the Conference to conduct informal consultations on the issue, reported that a number of delegations had indicated that they needed more time to consult with their Governments on the new proposal presented by Turkey.

12. The Conference agreed, on the proposal of the President, that the new proposal from Turkey should be referred to the SBI for consideration at its next session, with a view to the submission of a recommendation by the SBI to COP 7 for consideration and definitive action (FCCC/CP/2000/5/Add.1, paras. 83-85).

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